

Middle Team Newsletter – T1

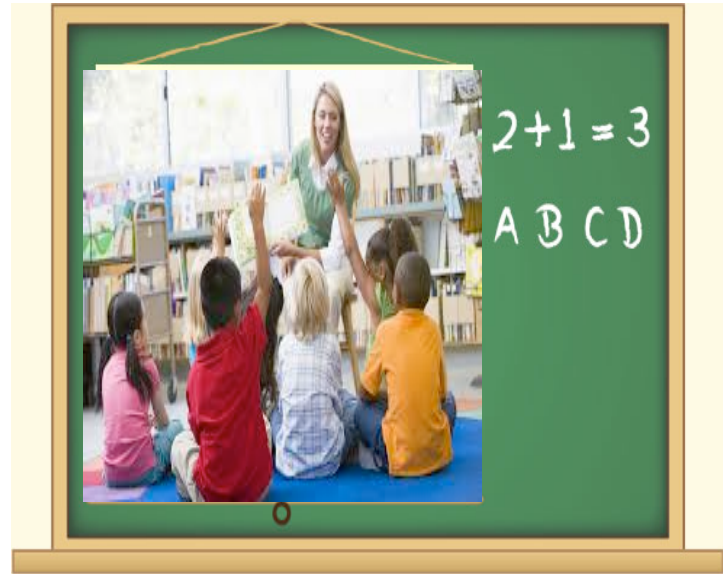
Welcome

Dear Parents / Caregivers

A warm welcome back to Term 1

As always we are excited about the activities we have planned for students this term. The teachers are looking forward to their new classes. We appreciate your support and look forward to seeing our students make further progress this term.

We also extend a warm welcome to our new Middle Team member, Karen Swinton in Room 6.



Term 1 Topics

Our main topic for this term will focus on **Social Studies – Global Society (I can make a Difference)**. We have an exciting trip to **Long Bay Marine Centre** organized in March. Students will investigate the impact of humans upon the local coastline and its wildlife through our work on 'Making a difference'.

In addition, as part of our literacy programme, students will identify and apply the key features of Recount and Letter Writing. The teachers and students will be working hard on their visible learning and looking to display examples of their work on our new Middle Team Wiki - <https://spsmiddleteam.wikispaces.com>

In week 3, 18 February we have a Meet the Teacher evening. This will be an opportunity to meet your child's teacher and have your child share and explain their learning.

Our numeracy strand will focus on measurement with students being involved in a Middle Team maths tumble. Students will continue developing number strategies through problem solving tasks.

Our Summer sports programme continues with a Kiwi Sports focus on TurboTouch. We would ask that your child wear the appropriate clothing for these lessons. Our outdoor sports focus for the first 5 weeks will be on small ball skills such as tennis, cricket, volleyball and T-ball.

We would encourage you to continue to support weekly home learning and to help students learn basic facts and times tables at home. Home learning also includes students working on Athletics and other online activities that your child's teacher has set up. Home Learning will come home on Monday and is due back on Friday. Good attendance will also be necessary as the teachers continue to assess and monitor your child's learning. Mrs Dewar would like to extend an invitation for all parents and students to visit her blog: <http://esolsps.blogspot.co.nz/?m=1> where we share our Cultural Diversity.

BIG PLANET – SMALL WORLD



Clubs and Activities

Students can continue to enjoy a range of extra curricular clubs and activities at school. We look forward to seeing them participate and commit to a range of activities. Students are reminded through weekly announcements about these activities so that they know when and where they take place.

School Newsletters

Please check for any letters that come home and on class notice boards. This term we will be asking for parent helpers with our trip to Long Bay Marine Centre . There will also be permission slips to be signed and returned. The term activity fee will include the cost of this trip. School newsletters come home on Thursdays and are also available online and on the new school website: <http://sunnynook.school.nz>

Important dates for Middle School this term

- Monday 8 February – Waitangi Day – school closed
- Monday 15 February – Chocolate Promotion begins
- Tuesday 16 February – Soccer promotion day
- Thursday 18 February – Meet the Teacher evening
- Monday 7 March – Class Trip – Long Bay Rooms 20 & 6
- Tuesday 8 March – Class Trip – Long Bay Rooms 19 & 18
- Friday 18 March – Class Trip – Long Bay Rooms 5 & 4
- Monday 21 March – Special Chocolate Assembly
- Friday 25 March – Good Friday – school closed
- Wednesday 30 March – School reopens
- Friday 1 April – Shore to Shore
- Friday 15 April – School ends

The school day begins at 8.50am and it is important that your child is at school on time. Children are welcome to be in the classrooms or playground from 8.30am. If your child regularly arrives before 8.30am it may be best that they are enrolled in the SKIDS before school programme.

School finishes at 3pm. If you are late picking up your child they will be waiting in the office area. Parents arriving to pick up students for appointments must report to the office, who will call the student from their room. If your child is absent please phone the office.

Hats are compulsory for Term 1. Our school field will be in use so there are plenty of opportunities for student to play outdoors.

Families are reminded to pay their activity fee so that students can participate in Middle Team trips and activities planned for this term. We appreciate your support with the prompt payment of fees.

We look forward to a successful and settled term 1.

Kind regards

Rodger Darkens

Team Leader on behalf of the Middle School Teachers:

Kelley Olsen, Debbie Barham, Hannah Gates, Karen Swinton and Carrick Wilson

